

arizona commission on the arts

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Bulletin

Winter 2006 #284

Eighty-one percent of the 146.4 million U.S. adults who took a trip of 50 miles or more away from home in the past year can be considered cultural tourists. Compared to other travelers, cultural and heritage tourists:

Spend more:
\$623 vs. \$457

Are more likely to have a graduate degree:
21% vs. 19%

Use a hotel, motel or B&B
62% vs. 55%

Are more likely to spend \$1,000:
19% vs. 12%

Travel longer:
5.2 nights vs. 3.4 nights

Demographic profile of the cultural heritage travel segment today is younger, wealthier, more educated and more technologically savvy when compared to those surveyed in 1996.

35.3 million adults say that a specific arts, cultural or heritage event or activity influenced their choice of destination.

*Travel Industry Association of America and Smithsonian Magazine
The Historic/Cultural Traveler*



Arizona American Masterpieces

In 2005 the National Endowment for the Arts announced a national arts initiative, American Masterpieces: Three Centuries of Artistic Genius. The program initially was made up of three components: touring, local presentations, and arts education, in the disciplines of dance, musical theatre, choral music, and visual arts.

In addition to the national initiative, state arts agencies across the country have developed

their own American Masterpieces programs to support the work of artists and arts organizations in their own states. This spring the Arts Commission launched Arizona American Masterpieces, a program which will provide funds to organizations, large and small, to honor the work of American master artists.

Announcements for a special fall application was sent out statewide, and on November 3, 2006, a panel convened at the ACA offices and selected seven organizations and projects for funding (see below).

For the 2007-2008 ACA grant cycle (deadline: March 22 2007), schools and organizations may apply for project funding in all art disciplines. Applicants should make the case that the proposed work is of acknowledged national stature and tenure. The Commission recommends that any organization or school interested in applying for an Arizona American Masterpieces project grant contact an ACA program director to discuss project eligibility.

For more information on the Arizona American Masterpieces grant program, visit www.azarts.gov/americanmasterpieces.

2006 – 2007 Arizona American Masterpieces

ASU Art Museum “Connectivity Stage 1 Museum InterLab”

Public exhibition and reception of students' work at the ASU Art Museum on April 13, 2007.

Ballet Tucson “Anthony Tudor's *Continuo*”

Four performances of master choreographer Anthony Tudor's ballet, *Continuo*, March 8 to 11, 2007

Center Dance Ensemble “Made in the USA”

Performances to the music of the great American composers George Gershwin, Aaron Copland, Leonard Bernstein, and Charles Ives. March 1 to 4, 2007 at the Herberger Stage West.

Estrella Middle School “Interpreting Philip Curtis”

Student exhibition at Desert Sky Mall from April 24 to May 5, 2007.

Phoenix Theatre “Guys and Dolls”

Performances run February 21 to March 18, 2007 at the Phoenix Theatre. Dates for Master Classes with Jo Sullivan Loesser to be announced.

ProMusica Arizona Chorale and Orchestra “Great American Composers”

Two concerts at the Boulder Creek Performing Arts Center in Anthem, featuring choral compositions by Samuel Barber, William Dawson, Stephen Foster, and Norman Luboff, as well as orchestral works by Elliot Del Borgo and Robert Washburn. March 30 and 31, 2007 at 7:30pm.

Tucson Museum of Art and Historic Block “Jane Hammond: Paper Work”

The exhibition showcases 55 unique paper objects that reveal Hammond's creative mix of techniques and materials. February 17 to April 29, 2007

What's New on the Web

The Arizona Memory Project, established by the Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records, is an online repository for digital collections from archives, libraries, museums, historical societies, and other Arizona cultural institutions.
<http://azmemory.lib.az.us>

artcite.net features reviews and essays about visual arts, performance, music, literature, film, architecture, and fiction in the Phoenix metro area. www.artcite.net

GrantCraft is a website where a team of consultants and writers interview grant makers to dig for the gems and set them in a meaningful framework. They organize this information into a variety of formats for self-study or workshops - all aimed at helping grant makers to work more effectively in whatever field or community they support. <http://www.grantcraft.org>

The International Federation of Arts Councils and Culture Agencies (IFACCA) is the first global network of national arts funding bodies. Inaugurated in December 2000, its mission is to create an international resource and meeting ground for all those whose public responsibility it is to support excellence and diversity in artistic endeavor. www.ifacca.org

UbuWeb is a completely independent resource dedicated to all strains of the avant-garde, ethnopoeitics, and outsider arts. www.ubu.com

The Director's Column

When you Google the phrase, "what divides us," the search yields 16,500 hits—proof that we have a lot of differences. And it seems that daily we are asked to focus on what separates us rather than to concentrate and build on those things that unite us.

We, in the arts, know quite a lot about bringing people together. We do it every day. In our work we make and present art that bridges, engages, heals, and inspires. That the arts have the power to help societies understand some of their most important common goals—educational achievement, economic development, cultural tolerance, creativity and innovation—has been well proven.

These aren't easy times for our country, nor are they easy times for the arts, but I have always believed that the more we focus on our strengths, the stronger we become. Let me offer just a few ways we might do this:

- 1) By always working to maintain a strong sense of unity in the arts community. We are strongest when we work shoulder-to-shoulder to support the best interests of all the arts, for all the citizens of our state. Our state is recognized nationally for the vitality and diversity of its arts scene. Collectively, we are one of the state's distinguishing assets, a center of excellence and innovation that has been many decades in the making.
- 2) By being assertive about the contributions we make to the life of Arizona and its citizens. We have amazing stories we must tell: of children who stay in school because of an arts class; of residents of a community who understand their new neighbors better through a traditional celebration; about tourists who come to Arizona to visit one of our world-class museums; of a rural downtown that begins to hum again on the evenings the community arts center offers concerts.
- 3) By remembering that there is a great demand and support for what we do. In a report by the Institute for Innovation in Social Policy, we find that 87% of Americans rate reading as highly important in their lives, 86% rate creative work as highly important, and 83% rate listening to music as highly important. These are just a sampling of statistics, out of the many that come across my desk every day—figures that demonstrate how much Arizonans care about the arts.
- 4) By showing how the arts are an integral part of your life. Celebrate the arts of your community by attending local events, contributing your volunteer time and financial support, and by taking a child to an arts event.

The essence of the arts—vision, imagination, creativity, and communication—serves as the vital tools of just about every human endeavor. I believe we will continue to get stronger by sharing our strength in these ways.

Robert C. Booker, Executive Director
Arizona Commission on the Arts

Along the Border

Executive Director Robert Booker and Director of Local Arts Development Mitch Menchaca attended the 2006 Arizona-Mexico Commission Plenary Session in Puerto Peñasco, Sonora, Mexico, in November. The plenary theme was *The Sonoran Coastal Highway: A Catalyst for Regional Tourism and Economic Development*, which brought together members from both the Arizona-Mexico Commission and the Comisión Sonora-Arizona to discuss how the region can become a bi-national market for economic benefit for both states.

Booker serves as a co-chair to the Art and Culture Committee with Virginia Reyes, executive director of the Cultural Council of Yuma.

The Art and Culture Committee is for individuals, institutions, and companies involved in the development, promotion, and exchange of arts and cultural activities, as well as other disciplines relating to art and culture in the Arizona-Sonora region. The committee created four action items that were presented to Governor Janet Napolitano and Sonoran Governor Eduardo Bours.

Action items included holding a workshop for teachers in Nogales, Arizona, to exchange best practices in arts learning from both sides of the border and to enhance teachers' ability to use artists as teaching artists in their classrooms in Arizona and Sonora. A completed item was the publication of Marco Jerez's bilingual book of poems entitled, *poemas de la vida y de la muerte*. Jerez, a cancer survivor and a professor at the University of Arizona, documents his fight against cancer through poetry. All the proceeds for the book will support of the Arizona Cancer Center, University Medical Center in Tucson. The committee also has an ongoing action item to promote cultural exchanges between the Arizona and Mexico.

The next meeting of the Arizona-Mexico Commission will be next June in Tucson. For more information on the Arizona-Mexico Commission, visit www.azmc.org. Anyone interested in the work of Art and Culture Committee or becoming a member, please contact Mitch Menchaca at 602-229-8229 or mmenchaca@azarts.gov.



www.tucsonpimaartscouncil.org

Faces in the Arts

Sue Chenoweth: Visual Artist

Tell us about yourself and/or your background.

Because of illness, I did not finish my undergraduate degree until my 30s. I then went on to get my Masters of Fine Art in Painting at Arizona State University. I have been told that I was very lucky to attend graduate school at ASU at that time because there was an influx of students admitted to the program that were experimenting with things both conceptually and formally. For the last four years I have had the privilege of working at the Metropolitan Arts Institute, a college prep visual and performing arts high school in Phoenix. I am passionate about teaching and feel that it is instrumental in informing my artwork.

Briefly describe the nature of your project.

My project is entitled, "Rivers, Roads and Trapdoors." Writing a proposal for a project is contradictory to how I work. My work is process oriented, so I proposed all the ideas that I would be working on anyway. Proposing a specific idea and then making it seems to take the magic out of it. It feels like the energy put forth into the proposal is then used up and I can't recreate it. My work has always been about that initial energy—the space between the artist and the final project. That is what I paint. My proposal was about all the things that I paint everyday: trails, maps, and houses. I have used the metaphor of the house off and on for many years, so it only seemed natural that I use it again. But this time I had the idea of introducing the game board. It is interesting to see how family trees and kinship charts evolved into the game boards we know today. I modified the family tree into my childhood home. I travel with these paintings as I paint them and occupy the space in my head. It is grueling work. Three of these paintings are displayed in the exhibit, *New American City*, at the ASU Art Museum, which runs through January 2007.

Tell us about your artistic process.

I can identify with the abstract expressionists of the 1950s and their lofty ideas of transcendence—which really included formal elements mixed in. Lately I have had my work discussed in the press as being very conceptual, which is funny to me because I view my work as being very formal. I try to disappear and body forth what need be. Here is where I can under-



Sue Chenoweth (Phoenix, AZ)

stand those good old boys from the 50s. I want to understand all things formal on a deep intuitive level.

I do a lot of research for my paintings. For my ACA-funded project I went to Newport, Rhode Island, to study the summer homes of the Gilded Age. I was able to go on a behind-the-scenes tour of one of these houses where I ventured into the sub-basement and came face-to-face with an arched passageway made out of brick that retreated to a coal loading dock many blocks away. It is things like this that inspire my work. My last group of paintings has to do with predators and prey. This all started when I saw the movie *Grizzly Man* and has spread into researching great white sharks and the big cats. Next Summer I plan on going on a boat trip around the Farallon Islands, off the coast of San Francisco, California, to watch the great whites hunt seals. Also, if everything works out, I will be leaving for Rome in March to study the catacombs of the early Christians.

How will the public view your project in the long term/years from now?

You can take my work and see it as one large piece. If I hooked together all the paintings I have ever done they would read as one long progression. I do not see this project as separate form anything else.

What would be the most valuable next step in your career advancement?

Research and make art. That is what I do. I will read what I am interested in and travel where I want to go. That will direct what I do. I can't wait to see what that may be!

Calendar

January 2007

Grant Applications available online for Organizations and Schools. For more information, visit www.azarts.gov/guide.

January 19, 2007

Deadline for Governor's Arts Awards Nominations

January 26, 2007

Southwest Arts Conference
Glendale Civic Center, Glendale

February 5, 2007

Arizona Arts Congress
Arizona State Capitol, Senate Lawn, Phoenix

February 9, 2007

Artists Projects Grants Panel
Arizona Commission on the Arts Office

February 16-19, 2007

Field Forward Choreographers Intensive

February 2007

Community Meetings around the State/EGOR Workshops. For dates and locations visit www.azarts.gov/calendar.

March 22, 2007

Application Deadline for Organization and School Grants and Regional Touring Program

April 2007

Governor's Arts Awards
Dinner Camelback Inn, Paradise Valley. For more information or reservations call 602.253.6535 or email artsawards@AzCitizensfortheArts.org

May 21- 25, 2007

Organizations and Schools Grant Review Panels at ASU Memorial Union and ACA Offices

June 1-3, 2007

Americans for the Arts Annual Convention in Las Vegas, NV.
For more information, visit www.artsusa.org.

"There is a vitality, a life force, an energy, a quickening that is translated through you into action, and because there is only one of you in all of time, this expression is unique. And if you block it, it will never exist through any other medium and be lost."—Martha Graham

2007 Governor's Arts Awards

The Office of the Governor, Arizona Commission on the Arts, and Arizona Citizens for the Arts invite submissions for the 26th annual Governor's Arts Awards, to be celebrated at a special dinner in spring 2007.

The theme of this year's celebration will be *Arts and Innovation* in honor of Governor Napolitano's National Governor Association initiative to strengthen the competitive position of the United States in the global economy by improving the nation's capacity to innovate.

Recipients of the awards are honored for their outstanding contributions to the arts in the categories of individual, artist, arts in education, community and corporation. An additional award was created last year for arts advocacy called the "Shelley" in honor of Shelley Cohn, former executive director of the Arts Commission.

Nominees will be judged on the significance and/or magnitude of the contribution and achievement, the breadth of the populations served and the recognition brought by virtue of the achievement, and the length of time and/or intensity of activity dedicated to the

arts. To nominate:

Send a one-page letter describing why the nominee should receive the award. [Note the name and professional affiliation of the nominee, sign and include the name, address and telephone of the nominator.] And finally, identify which of the six categories is appropriate for the nominee.

Visit the Arizona Citizens for the Arts website for information at

www.AzCitizensfortheArts.org or call 602-253-6535. **Nominations must be post-marked by January 19, 2007.**

All proceeds from the event will go toward advancing Arizona Citizens for the Arts' mission of increasing discussion and awareness of the importance and impact of the arts in achieving quality of life, educational excellence and economic health for all Arizonans and Arizona enterprises.

Arizona Arts Congress 2007

On Monday, February 5, Arizona Action for the Arts and the Arizona Commission on the Arts will host the 18th annual Arizona Arts Congress on the Senate Lawn of the Arizona State Capitol from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Come join fellow arts advocates, representing business, arts and culture, education, tourism and economic development, to demonstrate that there is a large community of voters from across the state that place a priority on public funding for the arts and arts education. A short program will be followed by lunch, meetings with legislators when available, and networking with other arts advocates.

Advocates are encouraged to attend a briefing session and rally at 10:00 a.m. in the Old Senate Chamber, which is on the third floor of the Historic Capitol Building. Organizations that bring 5 or more people will be considered co-sponsors of the event and will have their name listed in all promotional materials. Registration is \$30 for members of Arizona Action for the Arts and \$40 for non-members.

To register for Arts Congress or to get more information about this event, go to www.AzActionfortheArts.org/artscongress.html or call 602-253-6535.

This document is available in an alternate format by contacting the Arts Commission at (602) 255-5882.



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